

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method of retrofitting a security cover to a ground opening that is fitted with an existing annular shroud having ~~an~~ a wall with an inner surface and a shoulder that extends inwardly from the wall inner surface, comprising the steps of:

a) providing second annular shroud and nesting the second annular shroud upon the existing annular shroud, the second annular shroud having a lid with a periphery, the lid being movably affixed to the second annular shroud at a first interlocking structure, the lid having an upper surface, a lower surface;

b) the lid having a second and a plurality of interlocking structures spaced circumferentially about the periphery of the lid from the first interlocking structure at first and second positions, the second interlocking structure including a lock having a locking member, the locking member lock positioned at the periphery of the lid, wherein at least a first of the interlocking structure having , the locking member including a projecting portions that extend above and below the shoulder is rotatable between retracted and extended positions;

cb) interlocking the first interlocking structure with a second interlocking structure mounted to the assembly of shrouds the shoulder;

dc) using a key to interlock the second interlocking structure with the assembly of nested annular shrouds shoulder by locking the lock, wherein the lid is removable from the shroud by using the key to unlock the lock and release the second interlocking structure from the assembly of annular shrouds shoulder.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein both interlocking structures have projecting portions that extend below the shoulder of the existing annular shroud when the apparatus is locked using the key.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein in step "c" the key rotates a lock of the second interlocking structure.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein in step "a" the interlocking structures

are spaced circumferentially apart at least 90 degrees.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein in step "a" the interlocking structures are spaced circumferentially about one hundred eighty degrees apart.

25. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein in step "c" the key is insertable into the second interlocking structure at an upper surface of the lid.

26-45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently Amended) A method of retrofitting a security cover to a ground opening having an existing annular ring member shroud that has a an annular wall with an inner surface and a an annular shoulder that extends inwardly from the annular wall inner surface, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a second annular ring member with a lid and a pivot that pivotally attaches the lid to the second annular ring member with , the lid having a periphery, an upper surface, a lower surface and a plurality of an interlocking structures spaced circumferentially from the pivot about the periphery at first and second positions, the second interlocking structure including a lock having a rotary locking member that rotates between locking and unlocking positions, the ~~lock~~ rotary locking member being positioned at the lid periphery and extending to the upper surface, wherein ~~at least a first of the~~ interlocking structure has at least one projecting portion that ~~extends above and below the shoulder;~~

b) connecting the second annular ring member to the first annular ring member to form an assembly;

c)b) interlocking the first interlocking structure with the assembly of annular ring members shoulder;

d) c) using a key to interlock the ~~second~~ interlocking structure with the assembly of annular ring members shoulder, wherein the lid can be rotated to an open position with respect to is removable from the assembly of ring members shroud by using the key to rotate the locking member and release the ~~second~~ interlocking structure from the assembly of annular ring members shoulder.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 wherein the both interlocking

~~structures have~~ structure has a projecting portions that extends below the an annular shoulder of an annular ring member when the apparatus is locked using the key.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 wherein in step "c" the key rotates a lock of the ~~second~~ interlocking structure.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 wherein in step "a" the pivot and interlocking structures are spaced circumferentially apart at least 90 degrees.

50. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 wherein in step "a" the pivot and interlocking structures are spaced circumferentially about one hundred eighty degrees apart.

51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 wherein in step "c" the key is insertable into the ~~second~~ interlocking structure at an upper surface of the lid.